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nearly nine schools in each state. To a lover of peace, this is simply appalling. This will mean, on an average, one hundred pupils in each school receiving daily instruction and drill in the brutal art of killing fellowmen, — forty thousand pupils in all, and many thousands more catching the spirit as they watch the drills, see the uniforms and hear the fledgling soldiers talk of the "pomp and circumstance of glorious war."

It has justly been said that "nothing so delights an American boy as bright buttons, drums, epaulets and swords." Like the smallpox, the war spirit is catching, and every boy from fourteen years and upward will get it. Worse, if this scheme is carried into effect it will mean the lowering of the scholarship of hundreds and thousands of boys. The boy that does not love study will ease his conscience and, it may be, pacify his parents by saying, "I'm not preparing for business or the professions, but am getting ready to be a soldier." So scholarship will be sunk in military drill.

Worse still, ten or fifteen years hence, after these boys have become men, when a misunderstanding arises between this nation and another, they will be the first to shout for war. A man that has been killing his fellowman for four years in *imagination* will be the first to wish to try to kill him in *reality* when the opportunity offers. These men will then be the editors, legislators and public officers, whose voice will be potential in stirring the nation's heart in favor of war. Such will be the fulfilment in this direction of the educational axiom: put into the public schools of a nation what you want to appear in the life of that nation. Put militarism into the public schools, and in twenty years you will find militarism in the spirit and policy of the nation.

Viewed from a peace point of view, there is something still worse. The Hague Court of International Arbitration has just been formed, and with most encouraging promise of success — success in bringing nations at variance to a rational and Christian tribunal to settle their differences on the basis of justice rather than on the basis of *brute force and bloodshed*. The wars of the two greatest Christian nations of the earth, the one with the Philippines and the other with the Transvaal, seem near their end, thus bringing again, as many feel, the glad hope of the dawn of a lasting peace on this war-cursed and blood-stained earth. The Hague Court provides that nations may come, as honorable and rational men come, before an impartial tribunal, and calmly and fairly discuss their grievances and have them adjudged and settled on the basis of law and justice. This must and will be the ultimate rule, instead of the war custom which puts two nations into combat as two savages, to shoot and stab and tear each other till death ends the life of one, and declares that justice belongs to the stronger.

Pass this bill and start your four hundred schools in this nation on the paths of militarism, and you set back the development of peace for fifty years. To prevent this bill from final enactment into law, let petitions and letters and resolutions from churches, schools, colleges and educational associations flood the Senate, praying, in the name of public education, in the name of peace and the higher name and spirit of Christianity, that it be rejected by the Upper House. If the nation has officials

to spare, — men whom she feels called on to reward or to put into good positions, — let the government send them to open gymnasiums, schools of drafting, of architecture, of civil engineering, bridge building, road construction and kindred peaceful arts, that build up rather than destroy, and future generations will be greatly benefited instead of cursed by both the physical and moral evils of militarism which this bill, if it becomes law, will powerfully foster.

"Let us have peace," said the great warrior. "War is hell," said his next in rank.

WICHITA, KANSAS, Dec. 5, 1900.

Gloomy Outlook for Europe.

In a recent issue of the *London Sun*, Dr. W. E. Darby thus writes of the gloomy outlook in England and in Europe generally:

"The outlook of the present moment in the light of this (military) development, and especially for our own country, which has but newly entered into the mad military rivalry, is such as to cause the reflective and the imaginative grave apprehension. The unimaginative will be untroubled, for they do not look beyond the present hour and the confronting fact.

"The problem is partly economical, partly political and social, but mainly religious and spiritual. It is, first and lowest, and therefore most pressingly, an economical question. That was the basis of the Czar's appeal.

"The European nations have an expenditure of £710,000,000 sterling, which they spend every year on war establishments, war preparations, and the cost of past wars, and this first charge upon the industry and wage-earning of their peoples forms a perpetual drain upon their economic resources which amounts to absolute depletion. But in addition to this, there have been the periodic blood-letting and wholesale destructions of war. A careful calculation has shown that the wars waged by the Christian nations in the last fifty years have involved the sacrifice of three millions and a half of human lives and the expenditure of at least £4,285,000,000 sterling, or an average of over £3½ per head of the inhabitants of the globe.

"During the present century, the same calculation shows Great Britain alone has spent on her army and navy and the interest of her national debt the astounding sum of £5,540,309,375. This is independent of the special cost, the losses and wholesale destruction of her numerous wars. If the whole period of our modern history, dating from the Revolution of 1688, be taken into account, it will be found that war has cost this country no less than £8,738,000,000 sterling. This sum is unthinkable; nor will it be much less so if we take only the normal war expenses of a single year, — that which is now closing, — which amount to £88,980,385, £150 per minute, day and night for the whole year.

"The 'Daily Mail Year Book for 1901,' just published, gives the normal expenditure on our army, numbering 952,545 men, and the net estimate for the navy, in 1900-1901, as £44,910,000 and £27,522,600 respectively. If to these be added the amount it gives for the Ordinary Consolidated Fund Services of £25,750,000, and the Saving by Suspension of the Sinking Fund and other war charges of £5,509,000, the enormous total is reached

of £103,681,600. The amount is incredible, yet the authority is not likely to err on the side of excess.

"It is not necessary to follow the special 'upward march' of this expenditure, and to show how the increase for the present year amounts to over £4,000,000, and the total of such increases for the last six years to the enormous sum of £60,914,502, justifying the remark of one of the chief combatants in the late election, that 'this increase of expenditure, not by hundreds of thousands, but by tens of millions, will go on year after year, and must mean increased taxation.' Of course it must, especially during a war; but the mischief is that every increase is more or less permanent. The total never falls quite to the old level. The 'march' is persistent and regular.

"Now this is a very serious matter, involving the financial stability and prosperity, and ultimately the very existence, of the nation. How long can this 'upward march' be sustained? How far is even the wealthiest nation from the edge of that awful precipice which means financial ruin? These are surely questions which trouble the patriotic financiers of the age — if there are any. To the moralist and the humanitarian, the problem has other aspects. What might not be done with these enormous sums in removing the social miseries, promoting the welfare, improving the education and character, and generally ameliorating the condition of the masses of mankind? Surely, in this enlightened age these must be reckoned among the main purposes of civilized government.

"The time has passed forever when the people can be considered as existing for rulers and their personal quarrels, though doubtless for some time to come they will be so used whenever by misinformation and an appeal to their brute passions the fighting frenzy can be stirred within them. The warfare of the future, however, as Mr. Choate, the American ambassador, recently declared, will — at any rate between the foremost nations — be waged in the commercial arena; and it is not a good augury for the two neighbor nations, England and France, that they spend more than four times as much upon their military defenses as upon the education of their citizens. Quintus Curtius, the Roman knight, who spurred his steed into the yawning gulf in the Forum, was right when he declared that Rome had no greater treasure than her sons. The curse of militarism is that it sacrifices the greatest treasure of the state by debasing the coinage; that is, by placing more value, in this strife and rivalry of the nations, upon the drilled automaton than the cultured and developed man. The future is to the nation that will train its manhood rather than its soldiers.

"Here we are brought face to face with that aspect of the question which concerns the Christian philanthropist, and should, more than any other, occupy the churches! 'The greatest evil of war,' said Dr. Channing, 'is moral evil.' Religion distinguishes between the animal and the higher nature of man, and its function is to develop the higher, the spiritual. 'If ye live after the flesh,' it says, 'ye shall die,' and fighting is after the flesh, among those 'deeds of the body' which are, it says, to be mortified. Christianity condemns war by condemning the passions that lead to war. 'Whence come wars and fighting

among you? Come they not hence even of your lusts which war in your members?'

"And then it sets itself to overcome and chasten and subdue the lusts of empire, of greed, of aggrandizement and conquest, just as surely as any others, and to inculcate the Golden Rule and the Law of Christ.

"Do what we will, the question will come to all true patriots, in their quiet moments, What is the real end of national life? Has it nothing higher than what is represented by militarism? Has man no nobler mission than to be 'a wolf to his fellow-man'?"

To the Victors and the Defeated.

BY EDWIN ARNOLD BRENHOLTZ.

O perfect day!
 Sky of the bluest blue!
 Oblivious thou that yesterday
 Our own hands threw
 The die of destiny,
 A nation's destiny,
 A whole world's destiny.
 Knowest thou that destiny?
 Showest thou that destiny,
 O perfect day?
 O perfect day!
 Oblivious to all acts of ours;
 Well knowing that supernal powers
 Hold us always
 Within the hollow of a hand —
 Lest we should mar a plan that's planned,
 By Love Divine,
 E'en by a hair's breadth line.
 O perfect day!
 Teach each of us repose;
 Teach each of us He knows
 The perfect way
 To perfect, perfect plans —
 Control these lives He scans,
 And bring the whole
 Perfected to the Over-Soul.

TURNERSVILLE, TEXAS.

New Books.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE AT THE HAGUE. By Frederick W. Holls, D. C. L. New York: The Macmillan Company. 8mo, cloth. 572 pages. Price \$3.

Mr. Holls, in giving the public this book, has made it possible for any who so desire to understand the work and real significance of the Hague Peace Conference. There has hitherto been no authoritative publication in English on the proceedings of the Conference. Its sessions and those of the Committees were all held in secret, and only meagre statements of the discussions were made public. This has left the public much in ignorance, — not so much of what was finally done, for the full text of the Conventions has been published, — but of the course of the debates and the obstacles and difficulties which had to be met and overcome. Out of this ignorance has, unfortunately, grown the impression with many persons that the Conference was almost a failure.